

Terminal Disclaimer

1. The terminal disclaimer filed on 05/19/2008 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration date of Application No. 10/371,977 (Patent No. 7,299,261 B1) has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

2. A telephone interview was initiated by examiner on May 19, 2008. Examiner suggested Applicant to cancel claim 25, replace the feature "the instructions including" in line 5 with "for performing", and file a Terminal Disclaimer to overcome a potential double patenting rejection over Application No. 10/371,977 (Patent No. 7,299,261 B1) in order to place the application in condition for allowance.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Tam Thanh Pham (Registration No. 50,565) on May 19, 2008.

The title of the invention is changed to: **"Method and System for Classifying a Message Based on a Canonical Equivalent of Acceptable Items Included in the Message"**.

The claims of the invention are amended as following:

Claim 20. (Currently Amended) A system for classifying a message comprising:
an interface coupled to a mail sever, the interface configured to receive the message, the message including a message body;

a processor at the mail server, the processor configured to execute instructions stored in memory, ~~the instructions including for performing~~ the steps of:

parsing the message body to determine whether the message body includes one or more items of a certain type, wherein the one or more items of a certain type may be used to classify the message;

identifying all instances of the items of a certain type for each of the one or more items of a certain type identified during parsing of the message body;

reducing each of the all instances of the items of a certain type for each of the one or more items of a certain type to a canonical equivalent that identifies a group of synonymous words, numbers, symbols, or phrases, and wherein the canonical equivalent represents each of the all instances of items of a certain type regardless of individual format of each of the all instances of items of the certain type;

determining whether the canonical equivalent of each of the all instances of the items of a certain type for each of the one or more items of a certain type meets a criterion, the criterion corresponding to an acceptable item;

classifying the message based on whether the canonical equivalent of each of the all instances of the items of a certain type for each of the one or more items of a certain type are determined to meet the criterion; and

processing the message in accordance with the classification of the message.

Claim 25. (Cancelled)

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to OANH DUONG whose telephone number is (571)272-3983. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday- Friday, 9:30PM - 6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on (571) 272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2155

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Oanh Duong/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2155